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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY NAVAL INTELLIGENCE COMMAND 2461 EISENHOWER AVENUE ALEXANDRIA, VA. 22314

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF RECONNAISSANCE GROUP INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS STAFF, OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR INTELLIGENCE, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

U-2 Support for Weather Modification Experiments; Subj: request for [

(1) OP-986 Memorandum Ser 007P986 of 5 Jan 1973 Encl:

The enclosed Memorandum from RADM MOFFIT contains a request for very high altitude imagery in support of a series of weather modification experiments which are to be conducted in the vicinity of Santa Barbara, California.

The purpose of the experiments is to develop effective cloud dispersal techniques which, if successful, could have operational application.

Since the operational capabilities and sensor 3. systems of the U-2 aircraft suggest its suitability for obtaining the desired imagery, your assistance in providing U-2 support to this project is requested.

If your response to this request is favorable, it is suggested that direct liaison be established between the appropriate CIA officials and the Navy point of contact for the project, CDR D. N. BROWN, OX 7-1444.

C. D. EVERHART

Deputy

NAVY review(s) completed.

CLASSIFIED BY: NAVINTCOM-00X EXEMPT FROM GDS OF EO 11652 EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5B(3) DECLASSIFIED ON: IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE

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Approved For Release 2003/08/19 : CIA-RDP76B00734R000100250006-8 SECRET DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350

IN REPLY REFER TO OP-986B1/mhs Ser 007P986

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2.5	MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, NAVAL INTELLIGENCE COMMAND
25X1	Subj: Assistance in Conducting Research and Development Project, request for
25X1	During the period January to April 1973, Naval Weapons Center, China Lake will be conducting weather modification experiments over ocean areas in the vicinity of Santa Barbara, California. Timing of specific experiments is contingent upon the existence of satisfactory natural conditions. Last year such conditions existed about 16 times during the four-month period. The existence of satisfactory conditions can usually be predicted 6 hours in advance with about 80% reliability. Tentative decisions to try an experiment are made 48 hours in advance with a Go/No decision 24 hours ahead.
25X1	During this year we hope to conduct between 8 and 12 experiments. It would be of considerable value if very high altitude imagery (visible and/or IR) of portions of the experiment area (200 x 200 n mile) were available at 10-minute intervals for one hour prior to initial seeding and up to three hours following seeding. Informal liaison has indicated that U-2 services might be able to provide some of the desired coverage.
25X1	3. It is requested that coverage of as many experiments as possible be authorized on a not to interfere basis in support of this weather modification R&D effort. It is recognized that the unavoidable indefinite times the coverage would be desired and the short alert times which are intrinsic to the problem may preclude coverage in many cases. If authorized, it is recommended that direct liaison be established between the R&D project personnel (Dr. Elliott, NWC, X2410) and aircraft activity in order to define details and effect coordination. The point of contact on my staff for this project is CDR D. N. Brown (0X7-1444).
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